

**ARIZONA TRAUMA SYSTEM QUALITY ASSURANCE  
AND SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT (AZTQASI) COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
February 22, 2001**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Melinda Case  
Theresa Christiansen  
Lynn Donaldson  
Dr. Pam Goslar  
Dr. Sara Hill  
Dan Judkins  
Steve Powles  
Rookie Stevens

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Michael Burns  
Deborah Gorombe  
Susan Hinze  
Sheri Jorden  
Dr. Phillip Richmond  
Brenda Sutton  
Dr. Scott Petersen

**GUESTS**

Philomene Spadafore  
Rosalie Johnson  
Mark Venuti  
Jeanette Williams  
Heidi Campas  
Marc Daily  
Cecelia Ralston  
Eva Noworytta

**BEMS STAFF**

Dr. Garth Gemar  
Lorenzo Henry  
Emelita Mansfield  
Ramona Cajero

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The AZTQASI Committee meeting was called to order by Lynn Donaldson at 9:41 a.m. after a quorum was reached.

Dr. Gemar, using his prerogative as Medical Director of BEMS, removed member Marcia Barry and replaced her with Theresa Christiansen, MSN, as representative from Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center. He also appointed Rookie Stevens, Trauma Coordinator, as representative from St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center, who replaced Pennie Klein.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Dan Judkins made a motion, and Dr. Pam Goslar seconded, to approve the December 14, 2000 minutes. Motion carried.

**III. GUEST PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Independent Work Group Progress Report on QASI Plan**

The acting chair's understanding is to wait until the program manager is online and this will be the manager's responsibility.

**B. Independent Work Group Progress Report on Trauma Center Identification Terms**

Sheri Jorden was not present and it was not known if the work group had any discussion. Melinda commented that from the last meeting the group was to collect information from other states. Melinda will call Sheri.

**Follow Up:** Phone communication or e-mail.  
**Delegated To:** Sheri, Sara, Melinda, Dan  
**Due Date:** 05/17/01

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Dan had a question regarding the minutes, under Old Business, B. Status of Trauma Registry Oversight RFP; "they are still trying to hire a state trauma registry trauma program manager". Dr. Gemar stated it was technical, that the trauma program manager comes on first and then the situation will be reassessed.

2. Dan's second question was regarding Dr. Gemar's conversation with Don Schmid/Legal Counsel regarding statute mandating that trauma centers report data, and Dr. Gemar will have a memo sent out to members with this information. Dr. Gemar stated that Don Schmid is firmly of the notion that there is no way that the year 2000 data could be submitted to the state given the problems with the Registry. A memo was sent by Dr. Gemar basically asking for his opinion in writing and Don said he will be happy to give it, but he just has not given one yet.
3. Dan's third question was directed to Dr. Hill regarding the minutes, under Call to the Public, about the Navajo Nation starting their own data base in March and if there were any more information on that. Dr. Hill's response was that they want to start collecting data, and they are not necessarily going to.

#### **A. CALES Contract (from STAB)**

Dr. Gemar commented on interaction with Dr. Cales. According to Dr. Cales, the registry is up and humming and doing well, and that 1701 is ready to go out. Dr. Gemar is assuming that the trauma program manager will be hired in the next three to four days and assumes that the person can tackle this as one of the first tasks. He would like everyone's issues with Cales to be specifically in the minutes.

Melinda questioned that as a group, the communication with the Cales group is sketchy and was it possible to share Cales' exact words from him, what he said as to what he has given to individual facilities. She asked because she has heard a rather disturbing communication, that they were a "group of whiners," which was "very unprofessional."

Dr. Gemar shared points that came from Dr. Cales. Dr. Cales wants to see someone in the trauma coordinator position because we don't have somebody who can, day to day, interact with him. Dr. Cales had some problems with the e-mail that was presented to STAB members. There was some dispute about how 1701 was used in Tucson (Dan Judkins) (but it sounds like Dan did come to an understanding, to a certain extent). Problems discussed were that Whiteriver wanted to get involved with Cales registry but there has been no effort expended by them to get in touch with Whiteriver, but Whiteriver would say exactly the opposite (Steve Thompson). It was represented to Dan that 1701 is out and is solid.

There was discussion regarding data for year 2000, and Cales 1701 upgrades.

A survey was done on who used the Cales registry: Maricopa - Yes, version 1609; St. Joe's - No, have their own registry; John C. Lincoln - Yes, version 1701; Scottsdale - Yes, 1701; Tucson - Yes, 1609(?); UMC - Yes, 1701; Flagstaff - Yes, 1609; Good Sam - Trauma One.

Dr. Goslar's suggested that they need someone at the state level who knows enough about the registry. The trauma manager will probably be different from whomever is qualified to be the registry; and a requirement that the data be submitted in a specific format with specific data elements. Discussion followed regarding software package and monies for software.

#### **B. CODES Project Update**

Dr. Gemar said EMS has named a Special Projects Manager, Sarah Penttinen, who will be the liaison to the CODES Project from the Bureau. Dr. Gemar will still be involved to a great degree. The main thing is they are trying to institutionalize it, and the Bureau cannot do that.

They are going to maintain the status quo and get the grant through the Governor's Office of Highway Safety, and pass it through to Carol Conroy to do the work on it.

**C. Independent Work Group Progress Report on Registry Software Plan (Lynn Donaldson)**

Lynn says they are having a meeting at J.C. Lincoln Hospital today with Trauma Base. There is another scheduled vendor in a couple of weeks. Hopefully, the work group can get together and write an evaluation. Melinda requested a copy of Blayne's summation from a year ago and have it at the next meeting of the work group.

**Follow Up:** Re-issue Blayne's summation of research  
**Delegated To:** Lynn Donaldson  
**Due Date:** 05/17/01

Eva Noworytta, a visitor from the state of Utah, commented that Utah did purchase the software for all the hospitals. She said one of the things that was put in place was that there had to be an ASCII import and export availability on all software so that if the hospital chose not to use the state-purchased one, they would be able to export the data and the state would import it. So whatever the hospital used, they had to make sure that data was clean and would still be subject to the edit. The hospitals all used the state purchased software. She was also representing Clinical Data Management (CDM) software, the software Utah purchased.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. AZ Trauma System Evaluation Plan (QASI Plan)**

(Due to loss of quorum, this was not discussed.)

**B. New Acronym: AZTQ**

Pam motioned and Dan seconded to change to the new acronym "AZTQ". Motion carried.

**VI. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Melinda again mentioned the meeting at John C. Lincoln Hospital starting at 11:00 a.m. today.

**VII. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2001 at 9:00 a.m.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m. due to loss of quorum.

Approved by AZTQASI Committee on 5/17/01